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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2005

***REVEREND SAMUEL KYLES TO SPEAK AT THE
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: WORKERS' RIGHTS***

Nashville, Tenn.- The Reverend Samuel Kyles, a renowned national speaker with numerous honors and awards, will serve as the keynote speaker for the 'International Human Rights Day: Worker's Rights Forum' that will be held Saturday, December 10, 2005, from 10:00 a. m. – 1:00 p. m. at the downtown library located at the corner of 6th Avenue North and Church Street. The International Human Rights Day, a day recognized nationally, where events are held to highlight human rights and economic issues.

Kyles, pastor of Monumental Baptist Church, Memphis, serves as a commissioner on the board of the TN Human Rights Commission (THRC). He is recognized as a resource on the civil rights movement, he was an eyewitness to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and he is the only person living to have spent the last hour with Dr. King.

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In 1968, Kyles participated in the garbage workers' strike. "It was as much about salary as it was about dignity," he was once quoted as saying about the march that demonstrated the powerful dynamics of race and class and the possibility of an effective coalition between organized labor and the civil rights movement.

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve under the leadership of our board members, particularly, Reverend Kyles. He serves as a reminder to all of us of our country's past struggle for equality, a struggle that is still being fought across the nation in agencies like the THRC. Through Reverend Kyles' legacy and leadership, the staff of the commission is empowered daily to strive for what we feel will be obtained, equality in the workforce and in our housing industries. The Workers' Rights Forum is a collaborative effort of many diverse agencies that share a common interest, which is to improve the plight of today's workers," said Amber Gooding, executive director of the THRC.

The THRC's role, by means of enforcement and education, is to safeguard the citizens of Tennessee from discrimination in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodation in regard to race, creed, color, religion, sex, disability, age (over 40), national origin, and familial status.

Participating agencies include Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship, Metro Human Relations Commission, NAACP, Nashville Acorn, Nashville/Middle TN Central Labor Council, Nashville Peace and Justice Center, National Alliance on Mental Illness TN, Tennesseans of Fair Taxation, TN AFL-CIO Labor Council, TN Alliance for Legal Services, TN Alliance for Progress, TN American Civil Liberties Union, TN Catholic Policy Commission, TN Citizen Action, TN Disability Coalition, TN Health Care Campaign, TN Human Rights Commission, TN Immigration and Refugee Rights Coalition, Service Employee's International Union #205 and United Steelworkers International Union.

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For more information on the THRC, its role, policies or the laws that govern the agency, call 1-800-325-9664 or visit the agency's website at www.state.tn.us/humanrights/.